

Listing of claims:

1. (Original) A utility tool handle comprising: a first straight segment covered by a first hand grip; a first curved segment depending from said first straight segment; a second straight segment depending from said first curved segment; a second curved segment depending from said second straight segment; a third straight segment depending from said second curved segment; a second hand grip carried by said third straight segment; a third curved segment depending from said third straight segment; a fourth straight segment depending from said third curved segment; and utility tool attachment means carried by said fourth straight segment.
2. (Original) The utility tool handle of claim 1 wherein the first hand grip is shaped to conform to individual fingers.
3. (Original) The utility tool handle of claim 1 wherein the utility tool attachment means includes a telescoping relationship to the fourth straight segment.
4. (New) A utility tool handle for working the ground with an implement carried by the handle comprising: two elongate straight hand grips and an elongate implement attachment connected by curved segments in such manner that a person having a left hand and arm and a right hand and arm can exert maximum downward pressure on the implement through either the left or right hand and arm while exerting maximum backward pulling pressure through the other hand and arm.

### Discussion:

The applicant has added claim 4 which is believed to specify the essence of the use of the handle which has been shown and described.

The applicant has examined the references, and particularly the applied Blessing reference,

The applicant believes that his original claims 1, 2, and 3, and added claim 4, are all allowable.

The Applicant has studied the blessing reference and believes that blessing shows a handle which cannot anticipate the unique features of the applicant's handle.

The Applicant has tailored his handle so as to accomplish the unique situation which results in a handle which will allow either a right or left handed person to achieve a unique combination of power by both hands. Comparing the illustration of use of the applicant's handle with the illustration of use of Blessing it is noted that the maximum downward pressure may be achieved by Blessing as well as the applicant. However, the Applicant's maximum pulling power does not exist in Blessings device. Looking at Blessing's Figs. 4a and 4b, it is clear that Blessing is not pulling with the left hand, but rather it is lifting.

The Merriam-Webster on line dictionary defines "curve" as follows: "Main Entry: "curve"; Function: verb; Inflected Form(s) curved; curving; Etymology: Latin curvare, from curvus; intrasensitive senses: to have or take a turn, change, or deviation from a straight line or plane surface without sharp breaks or angularity.---". Applying this definition it is seen that the Applicant has employed a blending of straight and curved portions to achieve the unique positioning of the hands and arms to achieve maximum power whether the user is right or left handed.

The Blessing reference is without curved segments but has a multiplicity of ten angularly connected straight segments. It is not believed that one of ordinary skill in using or designing

implements of this type would find Blessing to suggest the Applicant's unique combinations of curves and straight segments. This unique use of straight and curved segments allows the unusual power useage of the hands in working ground which maximizes downward pressure against the earth by one hand and maximizes pulling with the other hand.

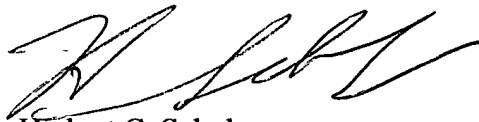
Conclusion:

The Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 2, 3, and 4 are all properly allowable.  
An early advice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert C. Schulze

Applicant's Attorney

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Schulze', with a stylized, cursive script.

Herbert C. Schulze  
Applicant's Attorney